SUBJECT No. 168.

Free grant of charcoal to iron smelters from State Forests.

Mr. Gurulingappa, Honnali taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The present rate of seigniorage levied on charcoal, *viz.*, Rs. 2-8-0 per cart-load, works as a hardship to iron smelters, who have no other means of livelihood. To afford some encouragement to the industry, it is prayed that free permits may be granted to *bona fide* iron smelters to prepare and fetch for use, charcoal from bamboos and other dead wood lying unused in the State Forests.

Reply of Government.—Will be considered.

SUBJECT No. 169.

Reduction of seigniorage on fuel in the malnad.

Messrs. C. Vamana Rao and Nadig Subba Rao, Nagar taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The conditions of weather in the malnad require a large consumption of fuel in the rainy season and winter. Moreover, as the fuel locally available is not of a good quality, the consumption of it is large. The levy of a seigniorage of 4 annas per cart-load of fuel, even in the malnad as in the maidan, works as a hardship to the people in the malnad. It is prayed that the present rate of seigniorage may be reduced to two annas per cart-load in the malnad.

Reply of Government.—Will be considered.

SUBJECT No. 170.

Removal of wood from the district forests and kans in the malnad.

Mr. Puttannagowda, Tirthahalli taluk.

Summary of discussion.—District forests are intended for the use of ryots. These are mixed up with soppinabetta kans and gomal lands. It is prayed that the Forest Department may be ordered not to work recklessly the district forests and kans. The ryots have to depend for wood for agricultural implements, etc., to some extent on these kans and if they are to be exploited by the Forest Department, it will greatly affect the resources of the ryots. The area allotted to each holder and village is distinct, and though it may not be marked on the ground, it is easily ascertainable.

Reply of Government.—Will be enquired into.

SUBJECT No. 171.

Honge leaves.

Mr. Soorappa, Tumkur taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Honge leaves that grow in the district and other forests are sold by public auction along with minor forest produce. The honge leaves are very useful as manure for wet cultivation. It is therefore requested that orders may be issued not to sell them with forest produce.

Mr. D. Hanumantha Rao.—The leaves are sold by the Revenue Department and seeds by the Forest Department with the result that they are sold to different persons which lead to friction.

Reply of Government.—The subject is under consideration. Order will be issued to sell the seeds and leaves together to the same person.

SUBJECT No. 172.

Levy of fees for removing "*kirèachal*" leaves.

Mr. Ranganna, Manjarabad taluk.

Summary of discussion.—"*Kirèachal*" is a shrub plant growing in the malnad. The leaves of these plants are used for purposes of monsoon screens to protect walls